

MINES, MINING, LOCAL STOCKS AND COPPER

End-Year Dividends of Copper Companies Largest In History

Condition of the Copper Producing Industry, at the End of the Year 1915, Is the Healthiest in the History of the Business; Every Indication Points to a Continuation of that Prosperity for Some Years to Come.

Coppers Becoming Better Investments Every Day; No Longer Are They Considered Gambles By the Investing Public But Are Growing in Demand With Every Month; Industry in the State of Arizona Keeping Pace With All the World.

End-year distribution of dividends to the fortunate stockholders in copper-producing companies will aggregate more than has ever before been recorded in the history of this country.

Every large company has increased its dividend disbursements over that of the previous quarter.

More astounding is the fact that profits are greater than dividend requirements.

Eight companies alone, namely, Anaconda, Utah Copper, Chino, Nevada Consolidated, Ray, Miami, Calumet & Hecla, Calumet & Arizona, are distributing no less than \$13,170,000.

There have been times in the past when copper sold at a higher price than today, so that individual companies made a greater profit per pound of metal produced, but at no time has this country ever outputted the total quantity of metal which will be recorded for the year 1915.

One must revert back to the years 1905 to 1907 in order to get an average range of copper prices such as we are now witnessing. And, on the other hand, present production is practically double that of the earlier period.

It is generally conceded that the American copper output for this year will exceed 1,650,000,000 pounds, and this despite the fact that many of the mines were operating at only part capacity in the early part of the year.

Compared with this the American copper production in 1905 was roughly \$89,900,000 pounds, in 1906 approximately \$12,000,000 pounds, and in 1907 about \$69,000,000 pounds, the average prices for those three years being respectively 16.05c, 19.87c and 21.30c. The highest prices for the metal were recorded in 1907.

A consideration of the present statistical position will lead to the conclusion that copper has yet to see a further advance to a higher level of price than has so far been registered on the movement from the low prices of a year ago. That is to say, 1915 will unquestionably show a higher average price than 1915. The increment of production over a period of time has been greater in some years than others, but viewed in large it has been steady and positive. It is worthy of note, in passing, that this increase in production has been coincident with the development of the big porphyry copper mines, of their enormous tonnages of ore reserves, their large output, and a steady dividend earning capacity assured for many years.

The great expansion which has taken place in the demand for the metal and the multiplication of its uses has been so rapid that these big companies instead of flooding the market with the metal, as was feared in the early stages of their career, has necessitated a speeding-up of production on the part not only of the big porphyry coppers, but of all producers in the country, in order that the supply might be equal to the demand.

It is a truly wonderful tribute to the men who have had charge of these operations both from the financial and operating end, that American production has been able to respond in the way that the records show.

It is not so many years ago that mining was held in disrepute. If a business went into the bank with a view of getting a loan on mining shares, the result probably would have been that he would have been asked to withdraw his account. What is the situation today? Mining securities, but more especially the copper securities, have by virtue of sheer merit forced a recognition from the most conservative banking and financial interests in this country. No longer is the copper mining share considered a pariah. It has won a firm place as a safe investment, from which a steady income may be calculated, with perhaps more assurance than is possible with any other class of industrial security.

In the last ten years this country has witnessed the enactment of a tremendous amount of legislation aimed at public service corporations and public utilities of all kinds. Railroads, street-car lines, electric light plants and other utilities serving communities have been the object of any amount of crank legislation, which has affected their earnings to such an extent, as in many cases to impair the equity of the stockholder.

It may not be always remembered that, roughly, 20 per cent of the total railroad mileage in this country is at the present time in the hands of receivers. This is illustrative of the effect which the so-called trust legislation has had on this class of investment. It has resulted in disturbing public confidence in these securities, from an investment standpoint. The feeling has been aroused that not only is it impossible to reckon with any degree of certainty on securing dividends from such investments, but there is the added danger that the equity which is back of the investment may of itself be destroyed. All this has contributed toward attracting more and more attention to the safety and remunerativeness of the copper mining securities.

As already pointed out, this year has witnessed a greater production of copper than ever recorded in American history. The 1,650,000,000 pounds of the red metal which it is estimated the year 1915 will show to have been produced in this country is almost ten times the United States' production of thirty years ago, when it was 166,873,746 pounds.

The increase is startling. Despite this, there probably has been no period in the history of the industry when the available supplies of metal on hand or so-called "spot" metal were lower than they are today. It is true

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LATERAL WORK STOPPED FOR PRESENT ON EASTERN

Management Is Now Giving Attention to Sinking Old Shaft and Making Preparations Toward Facilitating Other Work.

MOHAVE COUNTY MINES
BETTERING EVERY DAY

Molver and Long Interests Now Working on the Development of the Green Quartz Group North of the Eastern.

Special to The Review.
KINGMAN, Ariz., Dec. 18.—All lateral work in the United Eastern mine at Oatman has been stopped and the management is now giving its attention to sinking the old vertical shaft from the 565 to the 765-foot level and the new main working shaft which will be sent down to a depth of at least 600 feet in order to handle the vast ore bodies already developed on the various levels of the former in a more economical manner and extensive scale than is possible under present conditions. Sinking in the old shaft was resumed a few days ago with three shifts of miners and machine drills. The new shaft—three compartments in size—is now down more than 30 feet and a windlass is being used in hoisting the muck. When a depth of 50 feet is attained, the new bore will be equipped with a 75-horsepower double-drum electric hoist and a 1000 cubic air compressor.

The Green Quartz Mining company, a new corporation organized by the Long and Molver interests, is making good headway in its preparations for an extensive campaign of development work on its property, formerly known as the Armit group. The one and a half compartment shaft will be sent down to a depth of 400 feet, to now nearly 20 feet deep. A 25-horsepower gasoline hoist and 200 foot compressor will soon be installed to facilitate operations. The company is an Arizona corporation, organized for 1,000,000 shares of the par value of 10 cents each. The officers are: President, G. W. Long, vice-president, W. K. Ridenour, secretary-treasurer, J. L. Molver.

The Boundary Cone continues to give a splendid account of itself. On the 500-foot level, a drift has been extended approximately 450 feet, of which the last 90 feet has exposed 4½ feet of ore ranging in value from \$15 to \$25 per ton. The ore body has a total width of about 12 feet. A 40-horsepower gasoline hoist and a 300 cubic foot compressor will, soon be installed as surface improvements and to permit of more extensive operations.

Having installed a 300 cubic foot air compressor and three jackhammer drills, the Lacy Boy management is rapidly getting in shape for extensive operations. A 40-horsepower gasoline hoist will arrive on the ground within the next ten days. No time will be lost in its installation as the concrete foundation for it has already been laid, the main shaft, upon which a windlass is at present being used, measures about 40 feet in depth.

A 25-foot sump below the 400-foot point and a large station at that level in the main shaft on the Big Jim were completed recently and lateral operations are now in full swing. The body of quartz revealed about ten days ago in starting the south crosscut on the level named proved to be 2½ feet in width and gave assays ranging from \$3.51 to \$50 per ton, according to General Superintendent Keating. Since crosscutting north was resumed other stringers of quartz of varying width and values have been intersected. All are believed to be parallel veins to or branches of the main ledge.

The Munderk Mining and Milling company, a new corporation, has taken over from S. R. Porter and F. A. Munderk a group of 16 claims adjoining the Putney group on the west and possessing the extension of the Nellie vein, which on the Nellie ground shows a width of from 14 to 200 feet and yields values of from 50 cents to \$20 per ton. Workmen at present engaged in building a road and grading for a site for a 25-horsepower hoist and a 4 drill compressor. A new main vertical working shaft—two

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FAKE GUNS AND SOLDIERS DECEIVE THE GERMAN AVIATORS



Fake gun and gun squad used by French to deceive German aviators.

This is probably the most elaborate deceptive device used by any of the belligerent armies. The French have posted a large number of their 220 cm. mortars in woods and other places where they are hidden from the enemy's "air eyes." In order to deceive the German aviators, the French have placed very clever fake guns around the real mortars. They are substantially built of wood and metal to look genuine and fully uniformed figures are placed about to represent gun squads. When an aviator appears overhead, soldiers pull strings to make the figures move. Smoke also comes out of the gun muzzle.

ARIZONA ASBESTOS MINES ATTRACTING GREAT ATTENTION

Asbestos Properties at Grand Canyon and Near Globe Come in for Their Share of Attention From the Mineral World.

The best asbestos in the United States has been mined at the Grand Canyon in Arizona for some considerable time, but the recent numerous discoveries of this metal in the Globe district have caused considerable interest. The price of asbestos is high, running from \$10 per ton on extreme to \$25 per ton. Although the United States leads all other countries in the manufacture and use of asbestos, most of its raw material has been imported from Canada. However, Arizona asbestos has been proven even better than the Canadian, as it contains a lower percentage of iron.

The above information, with a bibliography of the literature relative to the same, a description of the occurrences of the minerals of asbestos, with some details relative to the economic factors governing the production of the same, are taken up in some detail in a recent publication of the Arizona State Bureau of Mines, by P. E. Joseph, Metallurgist of the Station, who is in charge of this work. Copies of this pamphlet, Bulletin No. 8, Mineral Technology, Series No. 4, entitled Asbestos, may be obtained by writing to Charles F. Willis, Director, Arizona State Bureau of Mines, Tucson, Arizona.

It is estimated that 750 motor cars are leaving New York every week for Europe. Total value of motor vehicles exported from United States during year ending Dec. 1 is \$100,000,000, a gain of 250 per cent over preceding 12 months.

Personal income tax paid during last fiscal year by 357,515 individuals in United States who turned into the Treasury \$41,946,162, more by nearly \$13,000,000 than total paid by the 357,598 making returns the year before.

Washington special says plan to put a tax of 50 cents a horse power on automobile and internal combustion engines and one cent a gallon on gasoline will be abandoned. There is likelihood too of Administration dropping its suggestion as to a tax on pig iron and steel.

Reichsbank is endeavoring to secure all gold placed in German safe deposit vaults since war began by urging banks to serve notice on renters of space that unless patrons sign a declaration that the vault drawers contain no gold they cannot renew expiring rents.

BISBEE AND GLOBE MEN ORGANIZE NEW COMPANY IN OATMAN

G. A. Bridge, H. J. Hierl, Robert Ferguson and W. E. McKee Interested in Gold Property in the Secret Pass Section.

On the big deals of recent date is the purchase by a group of Globe and Bisbee men of the old Typhoon group, formerly owned by Robert J. Roe and John Lion and Senator Henry Lovin, and situated in the heart of Secret Pass, in the Oatman District. The deal was brought about by Fred T. Draxler, who has been interested in the development of mines in that district for some time. Associated with him in the enterprise are Dr. G. A. Bridge, H. J. Hierl, Dr. Robert Ferguson, W. E. McKee, president of the Citizens Bank and Trust company, all of Bisbee, and Dr. W. A. Holt of Globe. These men have combined in the formation of the Nancy Lee Mining company, which has secured the excellent property. Dr. G. A. Bridge is president of the company, Fred T. Draxler is vice president and manager, and H. J. Hierl is secretary and treasurer, the other men being of the directorate.

The company has been capitalized at one million \$1 shares, with 600,000 shares in the treasury. The properties are paid for and devoted to the company, not one cent of indebtedness outstanding. The shares that were paid for the property and for which the promotion stock was issued have been pooled for a sufficient period to allow of the financing of the property and also to insure the investor that every dollar obtained through stock sales will go into the treasury for development and equipment of the mines.

The company has arranged to sell a block of 150,000 shares of stock at 25 cent per share for development purposes. Of this block, a reasonable number of shares have been allotted to Cochise county, to allow investment by men who know the mines and their splendid possibility for making good.

The topography of the country in which the mines are situated is rather rough, massive, volcanic flows having been eroded into rugged peaks and precipitous canyons. The Nancy Lee claim of the group is traversed by many large dikes and ledges, coursing northwesterly, some of them running for miles through the country. A prominent fissure vein with a north-easterly strike breaks through the dikes and ledges and shows throughout its course splendid evidence of possible development of commercial bodies of ore.

The major part of the development work on the Nancy Lee, exceeding 500 feet in extent, has been performed on the vein at a point about 700 feet north of its junction with the big

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FARMERS' SUITS IN SMELTER LOCATIONS FEW IN THIS STATE

Suits Against Smelter Owners By Farmers Are Few and Far Between in This State; Local People Profit By Experience.

The farmer is a broad-minded and public spirited man, so much so that he welcomes with open arms the announcement of a smelter project in his vicinity. He gives it all the assistance in his power, because he knows that it will bring a small army of employees into the community; it will build up the town; it will provide a market for his crops and will make his own land more valuable. He also knows that it often will provide employment for him or his sons.

Much life is installed into a community by the establishment of a smelter, for prosperity in the west is dependent upon the mining industry. But, after the new industry is created and after several millions of dollars have been spent and the plant becomes prosperous, some of the farmers see an opportunity for a "hold-on game," and the result is suits for "damages from smoke." While it is undoubtedly true that there has been damage from times in the past, it is not to the extent that the owners have to pay. A dry hot summer comes and crops are a failure—sue the smelter; a grasshopper or cricket plague appears and crops are a failure—sue the smelter; a farm is worn out or has not been fertilized properly and crops are a failure—sue the smelter. These and many others are the basis of many of the imaginary damages done by smelter smoke. Throughout the country there has been an epidemic of suits against smelters, many of which were upon almost no grounds.

Fortunately, Arizona has been free from this plague, partly due to the public spirited farmer, and partly due to the fact that the mining companies have taken all possible precautions. Let us learn our lesson from the other states and avoid such trouble.

United Securities Dye & Chemical Co. was incorporated at Dover, Del., Friday with capitalization of \$5,000,000, to acquire all kinds of dye substances, and to refine and prepare them for market; also to deal in tools, implements and explosives.

Pittsburg special declares that merger of Cambria Steel, Lackawanna Steel and Youngstown Sheet Iron & Tube Co. into a \$250,000,000 corporation will be voted on this week, according to James A. Campbell, president of the Youngstown Co.

In money orders alone \$3,158,797 was sent out of United States through New York post office between Dec. 1 and Dec. 11. This represents an increase of \$1,467,704 over corresponding period last year.

MINES BOOST TAX ROLLS OF PINAL COUNTY

The Tax Rolls of the several counties of Arizona afford a study for a student of political economy, and disclose some very interesting features.

J. H. Robinson, Secretary of the Arizona Chapter American Mining Congress, has been devoting a large part of his time during the summer months to obtaining statistics of those counties in which mining is largely the predominant industry and in classifying the data thus gathered by him. Pinal County shows a remarkable illustration of the wonderful progress which this industry has made there.

With a total assessed value of all property in the year 1910 amounting to \$2,720,153.86, this year is amounting to \$25,249,182.99, the increase being due largely to the development of the mines in that county, and especially to the Ray Consolidated Copper Company's activity.

The tax rate in the former year for territorial and county purposes was \$3 on each \$100 valuation and the rate for the year 1915 is \$1.28722 on each \$100 valuation.

What is now known as the Ray Consolidated Copper Co's property was in that year owned by the Ray Copper Co. assessed for \$104,798.73 and the Ray Central Copper Company, assessed for \$21,650 or a total of \$126,448.73. With the development by the Ray Consolidated Copper Company and the resultant construction of railroads the mining industry today is assessed for 64.68 per cent of the total assessment of the entire county and the railroads 28.39 per cent, making the total for these two industries \$7.07 per cent of the entire tax roll of the county.

The combined assessment of the two industries amounts to an aggregate of \$21,130,114.29, besides the values that have been created along other lines through this mining activity. This shows the remarkable increase in five years of nearly 800 per cent of the entire taxable wealth of the county in this single industry, or to speak more plainly, the value of the mines and railroads alone of Pinal county today is almost 8 times what the whole taxable wealth of the county amounted to five years ago.

Aided from the increase of the taxable value of the property in the county, the population has almost doubled during the same period.

With the inauguration of an irrigation enterprise on the hills by the storage of water and the subsequent development of the Casa Grande Valley, Pinal county will be a small empire in itself, and few counties if any, will surpass it in its agricultural possibilities.

It has soil of unsurpassed fertility; it has a typical Arizona health giving and life prolonging climate, with no killing frosts in its lower altitudes, with a capacity for fruit raising from the semi-tropical orange and date to the cooler climate required for the profitable production of apples in the higher altitudes.

There are few counties that can make the showing of Pinal county and this was demonstrated in her exhibit at the recent State Fair.

Fortunate indeed, is this county to have such varied resources, as it is a rule that a county devoted largely to mining, as this is, does not have the agricultural possibilities which it possesses.

In addition to the mines which are producing dividends and contributing largely to the support of the state and county governments, another is expected to be added to this list very soon. That is the Magma Copper Co's mines which are being rapidly developed and are now in the dividend paying class, and together with its railroad will be a big factor in the contribution to the state and county horserafter.

An analysis of the tax roll develops some peculiar features. It contains the names of about 1500 taxpayers. Of this number twenty-five are assessed for \$21,844,377.95 or 85 per cent of the entire taxable property, leaving the other fourteen hundred and seventy-five taxpayers assessed for \$3,606,556.00, or 14.4 per cent of the property.

The Ray Consolidated Copper Co. in Pinal county, on its mining property alone pays 51 percent of the entire

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